Case 1:11-cv-01775-KBF Document 138 Filed 10/03/13 Page 1 of 22

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

777 EAST WISCONSIN AVENUE MILWAUKEE, WI 53202-5306 414.271.2400 TEL 414.297.4900 FAX WWW.FOLEY.COM

CLIENT/MATTER NUMBER 080200-0292

October 7, 2013

Via Hand Delivery

Honorable Katherine B. Forrest United States District Judge Southern District of New York United States Courthouse 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 1007-1312



Re: Baseball Quick, LLC v. MLB Advanced Media, L.P. et al.,

Case No. 11-cv-01735(KBF)

Dear Judge Forrest:

Pursuant to your Honor's Order of October 1, 2013 (see Dkt. No. 136), we have requested additional information about the relevant background and statistics of Cameron Saadat, the USPTO Examiner responsible for the *inter partes* re-examination of the patent-in-suit. The enclosed report was ordered from and generated by JudicialStats (http://www.judicialstats.com) using its database of information regarding re-examinations at the USPTO. Notably, the one *inter partes* re-examination handled by Examiner Saadat for which an appeal has been decided was affirmed by the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (P.T.A.B.). (See JudicialStats Report at 2.)

The enclosed report also includes information regarding reversal rates for all *inter* partes re-examinations throughout the USPTO and, more specifically, reversal rates for all *inter* partes re-examinations in the Group Art Unit in which Examiner Saadat and the re-examination of the patent-in-suit are assigned, Group Art Unit 3992. (See JudicialStats Report at 1-2.) For all *inter* partes re-examinations appealed to the P.T.A.B. (and the B.P.A.I. before that), more than 92% were not reversed on appeal. (Id. at 2.) Similarly, for all *inter* partes re-examinations in Group Art Unit 3992 appealed to the P.T.A.B. (and the B.P.A.I. before that), more than 92% were not reversed on appeal. (Id. at 2.)

According to the report, Examiner Saadat has 12 years of experience at the USPTO, and has examined 191 regular utility patent applications and has examined, or is currently examining, 34 re-examinations. (See JudicialStats Report at 1.) Examiner Saadat is currently

¹ As of September 16, 2012, as required by the America Invents Act, the USPTO's board of administrative patent judges changed its name from the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (B.P.A.I) to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (P.T.A.B.). Please note that the JudicalSTATS re-examination statistics report uses the pre-AIA name B.P.A.I.



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Honorable Katherine B. Forrest October 7, 2013 Page 2

Counsel of Record

cc:

Enclosures

assigned to Group Art Unit 3992, an art unit dedicated to re-examinations. (*Id.* at 1, 6.) Examiner Saadat was promoted to this art unit in 2010. Prior to Group Art Unit 3992, Examiner Saadat worked in art units 3713, 3714, and 3715, examining applications relating to amusement and educational devices including, but not limited to, electrical amusement devices. (*Id.* at 6.)

Since promotion to the re-examination group in 2010, Examiner Saadat has worked on nine *inter partes* re-examinations including the re-examination of the patent-in-suit. (See JudicialStats Report at 3-4.) One of the other *inter partes* re-examinations that Examiner Saadat is currently working on, Appl. No. 95/001,750, pertains to a patent from the exact same patent class (No. 473) as the patent-in-suit. As mentioned above, only one of Examiner Saadat's *inter partes* re-examination decisions has been appealed to and decided by the P.T.A.B. (Id.) According to the Report: "[t]he [P.T.A.B.] agreed with Examiner Saadat and sustained Examiner Saadat's decision." (Id.)²

Inter partes reexamination is a process involving both the patent holder and the challenger to the patent (as contrasted with ex parte reexamination where the challenger cannot fully participate). As reflected in the statistics, this robust process leads to sound decisions that typically survive scrutiny on review. This is further evidence that the conclusions set forth in Examiner Saadat's Action Closing Prosecution are highly unlikely to be reversed on any appeal and that the claims of the patent-in-suit will not survive re-examination.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia J. Rigsby

Ordered: Post to docket.

Per the Court's Individual

Practices in Civil Cases, letters should now be

filed on ECF.

10/8/13

Kn B. Former

Katherine B. Forrest United States District Judge

² For more information about the particular *inter partes* appeal involving Examiner Saadat, I enclose the P.T.A.B.'s decision for *VS2 Worldwide Communications, Inc. v. Robert E. Houchin, Inter Partes* Reexamination Control No. 95/001,479, affirming Examiner Saadat's rejection of certain claims in the re-examined patent.

SPECIALIZED RE-EXAMINATION STATISTICS REPORT FOR EXAMINER CAMERON SAADAT

Background

- Examiner Saadat has been with the United States Patent and Trademark Office for 12 years, since graduation from Milwaukee School of Engineering (B.S., 2001).
- In that time, he has examined 191 regular utility applications, and, in recent years, he has worked on 34 re-examinations, in GAU 3992.

Contact Information

- Position: Primary Examiner
- Supervisor (SPE): Andrew Fischer
- Current Art Unit: GAU 3992
- Previous Art Units: GAU 3713, 3714 and 3715
- Office: P/3992
- Tel.: 571.272.4443

Inter Partes Re-Examination Appeal Rate (percentage of inter partes applications ripe for appeal appealed to the B.P.A.I.)

100% Appealed



Examiner Saadat

20.23% Appealed



All Inter Partes
Re-Exams at the PTO

18.36% Appealed



Inter Partes Re-Exams - GAU 3992

Analysis

Inter partes re-examinations handled by Examiner Saadat were subject to appeal at a substantially higher rate than re-examinations handled at the PTO and within his art unit generally. His experience with inter partes re-examinations is somewhat limited, because, for the majority of his time at the PTO, he has also been employed as a primary examiner, examining ordinary utility applications.

SPECIALIZED RE-EXAMINATION STATISTICS REPORT FOR EXAMINER CAMERON SAADAT (2 of 6)

Re-Examination Reversal Rate (percentage of resolved inter partes re-examination appeals reversed by the B.P.A.I.)

7.69% Reversed Reversed Reversed

Examiner Saadat Average - All Inter Partes Average - GAU 3992 Re-Exams at the PTO

Analysis

Examiner Saadat's inter partes re-examinations that were subjected to appeal were sustained at a rate of 100%, which is higher than the general rates at the USPTO and within his Art Unit. Although, as mentioned previously, his experience in inter partes re-examinations is somewhat limited, the single inter partes re-examination of his that was subject to appeal at the BPAI was sustained, with respect to each of three claims subject to appeal.

In more detail, in Re-Examination Application No. 95/001,479, a lottery gaming patent was challenged by a re-examination requester, and Examiner Saadat rejected two claims (43 and 44) on obviousness grounds. The patent owner appealed, but Examiner Saadat's determination was sustained with respect to both claims. Among other reasoning, Examiner Saadat gave the term "sweepstakes" its broadest consistent, reasonable interpretation, as encompassing a wide array of games of chance. In so doing, Examiner Saadat rejected the patent owner's argument that the specification limited the definition of the term "sweepstakes" to "legal" games. (See Inter Partes BPAI Decision in Re-Examination No. 95/001,479, at 4 - 12.)

The BPAI agreed with Examiner Saadat, and sustained Examiner Saadat's decision. (Id.)

Two other inter partes re-examinations handled by Examiner Saadat have also been subject to appeal proceedings, but have not yet been the subject of rendered BPAI decisions.

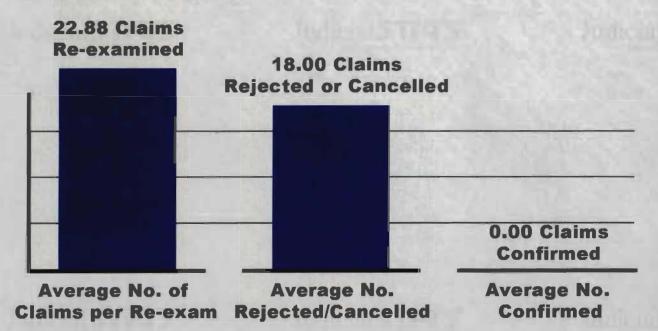
SPECIALIZED RE-EXAMINATION STATISTICS REPORT FOR EXAMINER CAMERON SAADAT (3 of 6)

Complete List of Inter Partes Re-Examination Applications Handled by Examiner Cameron Saadat

App. No.	Filed	Class/Description
95/001,479	Nov. 2, 2010	463, Amusement Devices: Games
95/001,750	Sept. 26, 2011	473, Games Using Tangible Projectile
95/001,809	Nov. 7, 2011	715, Data Process.: Presentation
95/001,919	March 2, 2012	704, Data Process.: Liguistics
95/001,923	March 2, 2012	710, Electrical Computers and Data
95/001,925	March 2, 2012	709, Electrical Computers and Dig
95/001,931	March 9, 2012	073, Measuring and Testing
95/002,145	Sept. 6, 2012	463, Amusement Devices: Games
95/002,347	Sept. 14, 2012	473, Games Using Tangible Projectile

SPECIALIZED RE-EXAMINATION STATISTICS REPORT FOR EXAMINER CAMERON SAADAT (4 of 6)

Bonus Data - Claim Disposal on Inter Partes Re-Examintations with Examiner Saadat



Bonus Data - The Only Inter Partes Re-Examination Denied by Examiner Saadat

App. No.	Filed	Class/Description	
95/001,931	March 9, 2012	073, Measuring and Testing	

SPECIALIZED RE-EXAMINATION STATISTICS REPORT FOR EXAMINER CAMERON SAADAT (5 of 6)

Special Notes Regarding Examiner Saadat

- Examiner Saadat is a moderately experienced examiner, with strong ties to the PTO. He has spent his entire post-college career with the PTO (12 years), and another family member appears to also be employed there.
- Examiner Saadat was reassigned to an Art Unit dedicated to reexamination proceedings - namely Group Art Unit 3992 - in 2010.
- Prior to that reassignment, he worked in Group Art Units 3713, 3714 and 3715, examining applications relating to Amusement and Education Devices (including, but not limited to, electrical amusement devices).
- Additional data, concerning Examiner Saadat's experience as a Primary Examiner handling ordinary utility applications, as well as Post-Grant Proceedings, is also available from JudicialStats.
- For example, data concerning patent rates and pendency, and the impact of key words used in prosecution with Examiner Saadat, are available.

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SPECIALIZED RE-EXAMINATION STATISTICS REPORT FOR EXAMINER CAMERON SAADAT (6 of 6)

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Additional data, reports and research may be available concerning the examiner and/or art unit(s) subject to this report, and many other subjects. Inquiries and feedback are welcome at the following e-mail address:

contact@judicialstats.com

Thank you very much for your patronage, and we look forward to working with you again.

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
95/001,479	11/02/2010	7316614	V047 7000	2934
KIMBERLY O	7590 08/27/201: ATLING	EXAMINER		
SMITH MOOF	RE LEATHERWOOD I	SAADAT, CAMERON		
300 N GREENE STREET, SUITE 1400 GREENSBORO, NC 27401			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3992	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			08/27/2013	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

VS2 WORLDWIDE COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
Requestor

V.

ROBERT E. HOUCHIN
Patent Owner and Appellant

Appeal 2013-009090

Inter Partes Reexamination Control No. 95/001,479
United States Patent 7,316,614 C2
Technology Center 3900

Before KEVIN F. TURNER, STANLEY M. WEINBERG, and GREGG I. ANDERSON, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

ANDERSON, Administrative Patent Judge.

DECISION ON APPEAL

I. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

A. SUMMARY

Claims 1-15 and 17-44 are subject to reexamination. App. Br. 2 ¹; Right of Appeal Notice (RAN) 2. Patent Owner ("Appellant") appeals under 35 U.S.C. §§ 134(b) and 315(a) the Examiner's decision to reject claims 43 and 44. Claims 25 and 37 have been cancelled. Claims 1-15, 17-24, 26-36 and 38-42 are confirmed. RAN 2.

Requester has not appealed nor filed a response to Patent Owner's brief.

The patent involved in this reexamination proceeding, U.S. Pat. No. 7,316,614 C2 (the "'614 Patent") issued to Michael J. Dietz, Earl D. Morris, Mark Olmstead, Robert E. Houchin, and Johnney R. Weaver on January 8, 2008. The '614 Patent was modified by a Certificate of Correction on January 29, 2008 to change the inventive entity to Robert E. Houchin; a first Ex Parte Reexamination Certificate 7,316,614 C1 issued to Robert E. Houchin on August 18, 2009; and a second Ex Parte Reexamination Certificate 7,316,614 C2 issued to Robert E. Houchin on December 7, 2010.

B. The Invention

¹ Patent Owner's Appeal Brief filed October 1, 2012 ("App. Br."), Examiner's Answer mailed April 16, 2013 ("Ans.") and Reply Brief filed April 26, 2013 ("Reply Br.").

The '614 Patent describes a network for conducting a sweepstakes. A consumer purchases a prepaid voucher, which stores digital data relating to the value of the voucher. The prepaid voucher is redeemable for goods and services, including a prepaid phone card ("PPC"). The voucher is activated at a terminal by the consumer. Once activated, the voucher can be recharged to add addition funds. A sweepstakes participation terminal includes a reader which reads encoded digital information on the voucher and allows the consumer to play sweepstakes games using the voucher. A system manager computer is in communication with the participation terminal. The manager computer manages the sweepstakes games, stores play information and transmits game information to the participation terminals. *See* '614 Patent, col. 1, Il. 41-59, col. 4, Il. 9-col. 5, I. 31, col. 10, I. 31-col. 11, I. 5, Fig. 5.

Claim 43, which is illustrative of the appealed subject matter, reads as follows:

43. A network for conducting a sweepstakes comprising:

a prepaid voucher for goods and services unrelated to the sweepstakes;

a means for activating the prepaid voucher;

at least one sweepstakes participation terminal located at a game site, the at least one sweepstakes participation terminal being adapted for data communication with the prepaid voucher; and

at least one system manager computer in data communication with the at least one sweepstakes participation terminal;

wherein the at least one sweepstakes participation terminal

is an 8-liner machine having

a housing;

an 8-liner microprocessor disposed within the housing for controlling the 8-liner machine;

a video display carried by the housing;

at least one button for inputting commands to the 8-liner machine; and

a conversion kit for converting the 8-liner machine to the at least one sweepstakes participation terminal, the kit having a conversion microprocessor in data communication with the 8-liner microprocessor and the system manager computer; and

a means for reading data from and writing data to the prepaid voucher; and

wherein upon activation of the prepaid voucher, a corresponding number of entry units for optionally entering in the sweepstakes are provided. (App. Br. 13-14, Claims App'x.).

C. THE PRIOR ART

Walker	WO 99/20013	Published Apr. 22, 1999
Luciano '477	US 2003/0092477 A1	Published May 15, 2003
Luciano '067	US 6,500,067 B1	Issued Dec. 31, 2002
Cannon	US 7,686,687 B2	Issued March 30, 2010
		(Published Aug. 21, 2003)
Stimson	US 5,577,109	Issued Nov. 19, 1996
Rowe	US 6,969,319 B2	Issued Nov. 29, 2005
Clapper, Jr.	US 5,928,082	Issued Jul. 27, 1999
Baltz	US 6,852,029 B2	Issued Feb. 8, 2005
Brown	US 2004/0249712 A1	Published Dec. 9, 2004

D. THE REJECTIONS

The Examiner adopted the following proposed rejections:

1. Claims 43 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Luciano '067, Cannon, Walker, admitted prior art ("APA"), Rowe, and Baltz. Ans. 2, RAN 7-16.

- 2. Claims 43 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Clapper, Cannon, Stimson, Luciano '067, Luciano '477, APA, Rowe, and Baltz. Ans. 2, RAN 17-26.
- 3. Claims 43 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Clapper, Cannon, Stimson, Luciano '067, Brown, APA, Rowe, and Baltz. Ans. 2, RAN 27-38.

E. <u>ISSUE PRESENTED</u>

Giving "sweepstakes" its broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the Specification, do the references teach a "sweepstakes" as recited in in claims 43 and 44?

II. ANALYSIS

Rejection of Claims 43 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as Obvious Over Luciano '067, Cannon, Walker, APA, Rowe and Baltz

A. Introduction

We begin by construing the key disputed limitation of representative claim 43, "sweepstakes," which is recited multiple times in the claims.

B. ARGUMENTS PRESENTED

Appellant contends "sweepstakes" should be defined as a finite number of game entries and finite number of opportunities to win a prize from those game entries. App. Br. 5. Based on the Specification, Appellant argues "sweepstakes" is a game other than a game of chance. App. Br. 5-7,

Reply Br. 5-8. Importantly, it is Appellant's position that "sweepstakes" as recited is a legal and not an illegal "random game of chance." Reply Br. 5, 8.

In contrast to the narrow scope argued by Appellant, the Examiner gives "sweepstakes" its broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the Specification. Ans. 4. Doing so, the Examiner finds "sweepstakes" is "a contest or any of various lotteries." Ans. 4 (citing *Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary* (10th edition, copyright 1996)).²

Appellant's arguments in support of the proposed definition of "sweepstakes" are reproduced below.

- 1. "Sweepstakes" must be interpreted as a "legal" sweepstakes because the Specification describes different attributes of a "legal" game, including:
 - a. a finite number of entries and corresponding prizes, as required to be legal (App. Br. 5).
 - b. participants must obtain sweepstakes entries by paying for valuable goods/services or requesting free entries. (App. Br. 5-6).
 - c. prohibiting placement of wagers or bets to receive additional sweepstakes entries (App. Br. 6-7).
 - d. enabling customers to participate in sweepstakes via game interfaces that merely simulate random games of chance (App. Br. 8-9).

² Sweepstakes: 1 a: a race or contest in which the entire prize may be awarded to the winner; b: contest, competition 2: any of various lotteries.

The Appellant cites to the Specification for support that "sweepstakes" includes a "finite" limitation on the number of game entries. App. Br. 5, Reply Br. 5-6. (citing Spec., col. 5, ll. 25-31 ("...contain the finite sweepstakes play information...")). A preferred embodiment section of the Specification is cited to show prize distribution tables, e.g., odds of winning, and that the "sweepstakes" is played and a new play starts. *Id.* (Spec., col. 5, ll. 52-59).

The Examiner finds the portions of the Specification relied on for the "sweepstakes" definition are, in one instance, describing an example. Ans. 5 (citing Spec. col. 5, ll. 24-31 ("For example...")). In the second portion of the Specification relied on by Appellant, the citation refers to a preferred embodiment. Ans. 5-6 (citing Spec., col. 5, ll. 52-59 ("It is preferred...")).

Appellant argues payment for valuable goods and services or the opportunity to request free entries into the "sweepstakes" without the purchase of any goods or services at all makes the game legal. App. Br. 5-6 (citing Spec., col. 1, 1. 61-col. 2, 1. 8). The Appellant cites to the Specification as describing the voucher used to enter the "sweepstakes" as being for "valuable goods and services unrelated to the sweepstakes." App. Br. 6 (citing Spec., col. 2, 11. 24-29; col. 3, 1. 60-col. 4, 1. 8).

The Examiner agrees that the Specification of the '614 Patent supports the proposition that a legal game of chance requires the voucher purchased have more than nominal value in goods or services unrelated to playing the game. Ans. 7 (citing Spec., col. 1, 1. 61-col. 2, 1. 8). However, the Examiner finds it is improper to import this limitation into the claims. *Id.* The Examiner restates the position that "the broadest reasonable interpretation of

a 'sweepstakes' is not limited to a legal "sweepstakes" and "does not require that the sweepstakes not allow placement of wagers or bets to receive additional sweepstakes entries." Ans. 8.

Appellant argues the Specification merely describes games which merely simulate illegal random games of chance. App. Br. 8-9. Reply Br. 8-10. One game that may be participated in is "simulated poker and 8-liner type slot machine games, which are used to reveal the sweepstakes prizes at the terminals." App. Br. 8 (citing Spec., col. 9, ll. 18-21). The Examiner finds that the argument is not recited in the rejected claims. Ans. 9-10.

Appellant concludes that, necessarily, "sweepstakes entries can't be wagered or betted in order to receive more entries, as that would be completely contrary to those aforementioned elements of a sweepstakes." App. Br. 6, Reply Br. 7. Based on the attributes described in the Specification, the "sweepstakes" claimed is legal and not gambling in most jurisdictions. App. Br. 5, Reply Br. 5-6.

We agree with the Examiner that the Specification's description of requirements for a legal "sweepstakes" does not rise to the level of a definition. To act as its own lexicographer, a patentee must clearly set forth a definition of the disputed claim term other than its plain and ordinary meaning. This clear expression need not be in *haec verba* but may be inferred from clear limiting descriptions of the invention in the specification or prosecution history. *Aventis Pharma S.A. v. Hospira, Inc.*, 675 F.3d 1324, 1330 (Fed. Cir.2012), quoting *CCS Fitness, Inc. v. Brunswick Corp.*, 288 F.3d 1359, 1366 (Fed. Cir. 2002).

The Appellant must do so by placing such definitions in the Specification with sufficient clarity to provide a person of ordinary skill in the art with clear and precise notice of the meaning that is to be construed. See also *In re Paulsen*, 30 F.3d 1475, 1480 (Fed. Cir. 1994) (although an inventor is free to define the specific terms used to describe the invention, this must be done with reasonable clarity, deliberateness, and precision; where an inventor chooses to give terms uncommon meanings, the inventor must set out any uncommon definition in some manner within the patent disclosure so as to give one of ordinary skill in the art notice of the change).

There is a heavy presumption that terms of a patent claim take on their "plain, ordinary, and accustomed meaning to one of ordinary skill in the relevant art." *Prima Tek II, L.L.C. v. Polypap, S.A.R.L.* 318 F.3d 1143, 1148 (Fed. Cir. 2003). Although a patent owner may overcome that presumption by acting as their own lexicographer so as to assign a special definition to a term, that definition must be "clearly set forth" and "explicit." *Id*.

The Examiner cited law supporting the proposition that limitations from the Specification are not read into the claims. Ans. 10 (citing *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181 (Fed. Cir. 1993)). Nevertheless, where sufficient clarity is provided it is proper to rely on the Specification for a defined meaning of a term. However, where the clarity is absent, it is improper to use the Specification to limit the scope of the claims in order to avoid prior art.

The Specification of the '614 Patent does not clearly set forth a definition of "sweepstakes" that would be as limited as proposed by Appellant. Indeed, as the Examiner finds, the Specification is open ended as

to the meaning of "sweepstakes." The portions relied on by Appellant are, on the one hand clearly set for as an example and on the other hand as a specific embodiment. Neither rise to the level of a clearly defined term. Rather, the portions of the Specification relied on by Appellant would lead the person of ordinary skill to consider "sweepstakes" broadly. Appellant does not respond the position of the Examiner regarding the fact that the relied on portions of the Specification are respectively an example and an embodiment.

Appellant attempted to add "legal" to the claim recitations for "sweepstakes" in an amendment filed October 28, 2011. Ans. 9, RAN 3. The Examiner did not enter the amendment as the amendment came after close of prosecution (ACP). RAN 3. We note this procedural matter because the attempted amendment highlights the fact that Appellant's proposed definition of "sweepstakes" was recognized as lacking clarity without "legal." As discussed above, lack of clarity precludes reliance on what is disclosed in the Specification.

The Examiner concluded that the definition of "sweepstakes" as a "legal" game was indefinite (Ans. 8) and did not support Appellant's attempt to be his own lexicographer. "Legal" is unclear because what is "legal" in the field of conducting sweepstakes varies from one jurisdiction to another. *Id.* Appellant's response is that "legality" is neither vague nor indefinite. PO Br. 7, Reply Br. 8. In addition, Appellant points to other issued patents which include claims incorporating a "legal" limitation. *Id.*

That other patents allow a recitation of "legal" (App. Br. 7, Reply Br. 8), suggesting the term is definite is not persuasive in this case. The

Examiner correctly cited authority that the merits of other patents and allowability of other patents are irrelevant to the merits of this case. Ans. 9 (citing *In re Wertheim*, 191 USPQ 90 (1976), *In re Giolito*, 188 USPQ 645 (1976).

Appellant's conclusory assertion that what is legal is somehow known is not persuasive in view of the fact that Appellant provided evidence of record showing two states, Virginia and Florida, have separate statutes relating to what is gambling and what is not gambling. What the record shows is that at least two states have statutes relating to gambling. Whether those state statutes would agree as to the definition of what is a "legal" sweepstakes and not gambling is not argued. What the remaining state statutes require is likewise absent from the record.

Appellant has not persuaded us of any error in the meaning given "sweepstakes" by the Examiner. We find the positions taken by the Examiner to be supported by rational underpinnings.

2. The cited prior art teaches away from the claimed invention (making it is impossible to combine the illegal and legal "sweepstakes" prior art references) (App. Br. 9-11).

The teaching away and improper combination arguments rely on an interpretation of "sweepstakes" that would exclude "illegal" games of chance. Because the teaching away and improper combination arguments are based on a distinction proffered by Appellant of the meaning of "sweepstakes" which we have found not persuasive, those arguments are likewise not persuasive of any error.

III. CONCLUSION

The Examiner's decision to reject claims 43 and 44 as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Luciano '067, Cannon, Walker, APA, Rowe and Baltz is sustained.

In view of our sustaining the obviousness rejection of claims 43 and 44 over Luciano '067, Cannon, Walker, APA, Rowe and Baltz, we do not reach the obviousness rejection of these same claims over different cited references. *See In re Gleave*, 560 F.3d 1331, 1338 (Fed. Cir. 2009) (not reaching other rejections after upholding an anticipation rejection).

IV. <u>DECISION</u>

The Examiner's decision to reject claims 43 and 44 is affirmed.

AFFIRMED

PATENT OWNER:

KIMBERLY GATLING SMITH MOORE LEATHERWOOD LLP 300 N GREENE STREET, SUITE 1400 GREENSBORO NC 27401

THIRD PARTY REQUESTER:

WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE, PLLC ATTN: IP DOCKETING PO BOX 7037 ATLANTA, GA 30357-0037